

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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41

ACTION SS-25

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P 051440Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0114

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 6123

EXDIS

FOR THE SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GE

SUBJ: ACCREDITATION OF AMBASSADORS

1. WE ARE NOW AT THE POINT IN OUR RELATIONS WITH THE GDR AT WHICH THE ACCREDITATION OF AMBASSADORS, WHICH WE HAVE AGREED SHOULD BE ON THE BASIS OF RECIPROCITY, BECOMES IMPORTANT.

2. THIS IS TRUE, AS I HAD DEEMED IT PROPER, ON THE BASIS OF RECIPROCITY, TO INSIST THAT FORMAL OPENING FOR US AND GDR EMBASSIES BE POSTPONED UNTIL MY ARRIVAL. WE ARE OPENING ON DECEMBER 9, AND THE EAST GERMANS WILL BE DOING THE SAME IN WASHINGTON ON THAT DAY. THE FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS PROPOSED THAT I PRESENT MY CREDENTIALS DURING THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 16. THEY WOULD LIKE AND EXPECT THAT THE GDR AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE BE ABLE TO DO THE SAME IN WASHINGTON.

3. WHAT IS AT ISSUE IS NOT THE MERE MECHANICS OF THE ACCREDITATION PROCESS, NOR THE PERSONAL CONVENIENCE OF THE AMBASSADORS CONCERNED. AS THE EAST GERMANS HAVE ACQUIESCED IN SEVERAL DELAYS, AT MY REQUEST, IN OPENING EMBASSIES, THERE IS NOW A CERTAIN MOMENTUM IN OUR RELATIONS AND A NEED TO MEET THE GDR'S EXPECTATION OF OUR GOOD FAITH THAT AMBASSADORS CAN BE ACCREDITED SOME TWO TO THREE WEEKS AFTER ARRIVAL IN CAPITALS.

4. IT APPEARS THAT WE ARE OFF TO A GOOD START IN TERMS OF OUR CONFIDENTIAL

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RECEPTION, AND NOTICE GIVEN TO IT BY THE GDR, AND THE

AMICABLE TALKS OF THE DCM WITH THE GDR ON ACCOMMODATIONS AND OTHER ESSENTIAL MATTERS. I BELIEVE THAT IF THE PRESIDENT'S SCHEDULE WILL PERMIT RECEIVING THE EAST GERMAN AMBASSADOR DURING THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 16 IT WOULD BE IN THE LARGE US INTEREST AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF OUR RELATIONS TO PROCEED WITH SIMULTANEOUS ACCREDITATION DURING THE PERIOD OF THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 16. I THINK IT IMPORTANT POLITICALLY TO EMPHASIZE RECIPROCITY AT THIS TIME.

5. PLEASE BELIEVE THAT I WOULD NOT TROUBLE YOU WITH A MATTER SUCH AS THIS IF I DID NOT THINK IT MERITED YOUR PERSONAL ATTENTION. AS ALWAYS, YOU HAVE MY BEST WISHES AND ENTHUSIASTIC SUPPORT. COOPER

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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